



**LANGUE VIVANTE II**

**Epreuve du 1<sup>er</sup> groupe**

**ANGLAIS**

Violence against women (hereafter VAW) is undeniably endemic the world over. It is present in all cultures, religions, and nations. While manifested in different forms, there is not a country on the planet where women do not face violence. Out of a genuine desire to respect world diversity and multiculturalism, many in the international community and particularly in the 'West' are relaxing the same human rights standards they wish to promote and are excusing or minimizing VAW if it is considered as an 'authentic' cultural, religious, or traditional practice.

Typical forms of violence on women include physical violence like slaps, beatings, flogging or murder. The worst of these is sexual violence which includes rape, coercion or deprivation of liberty, forced marriage, forced prostitution, forced abortion, excision, to name but a few. VAW is perpetrated by both state military forces and non-state armed groups as deliberate tactics of war, as a form of torture, to inflict injury, to extract information, to degrade and intimidate communities.

Domestic violence is one of the most widespread forms of VAW and researches have revealed that most of the time the perpetrator is the male partner. Anna was victim of this form of violence. She says she was massively injured. Her husband reproached her with infidelity after he had heard her talking to a man on the phone. "He got furious and took me by the throat, I was suffocating and I feared **the worst**. How deceitful life can be ! He had promised to be a perfect husband. It was not until we got married when I realized he was a monster. I wish we could live in mutual love, respect and trust".

Women who experience violence suffer a range of health problems and their ability to participate in public life is diminished. Some who were victim of rape would rather not bring their aggressor to justice for fear of a public trial which sounds to them as another humiliation. These kinds of women will be emotionally affected for their lifetime. Another effect of sexual abuse is traumatic gynecologic fistula : a pain rendering the woman incontinent and socially undesirable.

Today, the introduction of VAW topics in school curricula as well as outreach campaigns to address **this issue** have proved to be effective ways to reduce the problem and stop impunity. Many civil rights movements are claiming for more severe laws to send a message to VAW perpetrators that violence against women cannot be justified in the name of 'culture' or 'religion'.

Cockburn, C. (2004). The continuum of violence : **A gender perspective on war and peace**, pages 24-44. Berkeley : University of California Press.



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II. **COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE** (6 marks)

F. **Anna and her husband are at the tribunal. They're answering the judge's questions after their dispute. Complete the conversation meaningfully. (0.5 x 4 = 2 marks)**

**Judge** : Tell us what happened between you and your husband.

**Anna** : My husband got furious as he heard me talking to a man on the phone. He beat me harshly and destroyed my phone.

**Judge** : Anna, 15. .... ?

**Anna** : It was nobody but my uncle Badou. He was greeting me. He had just come back from Italy.

**Judge** : Samba, 16. .... ?

**Husband** : No, there are other reasons.

**Judge** : 17. .... ?

**Husband** : At first, she never obeys me and she refuses to submit to my will. And you will agree with me that without obedience and 18. ...., no harmony is possible.

**Judge** : I am afraid I won't agree with you ; violence has never been a good solution.

**Husband** : You're right, your honor ! I'm really sorry. I swear I will never beat her again.

**Judge** : Alright ! We'll see all this later. Next case !

G. **Combine elements from column A and B so as to build four grammatically correct sentences. (0.5 x 4 = 2 marks)**

Column A	Column B
19. Anna still loves her male partner	a. than sensitizing people.
20. Unless governments take more strong measures	b. violence against women will continue.
21. Very few women denounce their violent partners	c. whereas the vast majority prefer to be submissive and suffer silently.
22. There is no better way to stop violence against women	d. despite being seriously injured by him.

- 19. ....
- 20. ....
- 21. ....
- 22. ....

H. **Add a prefix or a suffix to the words in brackets to complete this passage. Choose from the box below. (0.5 x 4 = 2 marks)**

able – il – un – ir – ion – ious

Violence against women is a disease that threatens a lot of lives. To curb it, governments should take appropriate measures to make perpetrators be fully ..... (account)

23

for their bad actions. It is..... (acceptable) to use culture and .....

24

25

(religion) beliefs to legitimate human rights ..... (violate).

26

**WRITING** Choose ONE topic and write about 150 – 200 words (6 marks)

**TOPIC 1** : Violence against women is gaining ground in today's society. What do you think are the causes and what consequences can result from it? Suggest a few solutions to fight the phenomenon.

**TOPIC 2** : Coumba and Samba are classmates. They are discussing the issue of making friends on social networks (example : Facebook, Twitter, My space, etc). Coumba is convinced that it's a good means to find the ideal husband. Samba doesn't agree. Write down their conversation.